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MAZATLAN, MEXICO, *December 23, 1902.*

SIR : I had the honor of sending the following telegram to-day :

To the SECRETARY OF STATE, *Washington, D. C.*:

Dangerous fever here, physicians divided as to being contagious. No epidemic.

LOUIS KAISER.

Which I now confirm, and in explanation would say that up to date all ships clearing here left not only with clean bills of health, but each person going on board had to be provided with a certificate from the doctor of the port that their health was good.

The authorities are taking the greatest care to keep the fever from spreading, and have divided the city into sanitary districts, with a corps of physicians in charge of the districts, and as soon as a person becomes sick with this fever he is at once taken to the pesthouse, which is located on the island of Belvedere, opposite the city, where at the present time 17 persons are isolated, with 13 attendants and 2 physicians detailed daily from the city for service on the island. The Federal Government has sent 2 eminent physicians from the City of Mexico to investigate and report on the fever, as all the doctors here are very much divided in their opinions whether the fever is contagious or not, and what the nature of the fever is.

I shall take the utmost care to protect the interests and rights of, and as well render all possible assistance to, any American citizen who should happen to be taken with the fever, and for the steps I have taken in this matter I would refer you to inclosed copies and translations of letters.

Respectfully,

LOUIS KAISER.

United States Consul.

The THIRD ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

PORTO RICO.

Report from Ponce.

Asst. Surg. Joseph Goldberger reports December 29, as follows :

For the week ended December 27, 1902, there were inspected 2 vessels, 34 crew, and 6 passengers. One of the vessels inspected was allowed to work under guard in quarantine ; the other was passed without detention. Of the passengers, 1 was for Havana, Cuba, via Ponce. He was held under observation for two days ; his baggage, 1 piece, disinfected ; he was then put on board his steamer just before her sailing. Bills of health were issued to 3 vessels. During the week ended December 19, 1902, there was recorded in Ponce a total of 27 deaths, none of which were due to any quarantinable disease.

Foreign and insular statistical reports of countries and cities—Yearly and monthly.

CANADA—*Ontario—Hamilton.*—Month of December, 1902. Estimated population, 54,500. Total number of deaths, 50, including 1 from enteric fever.

CHILE—*Antofagasta.*—Month of November, 1902. Estimated population, 8,000. Total number of deaths, 41, including 3 from tuberculosis.

FRANCE—*St. Etienne.*—Two weeks ended December 15, 1902. Esti-

mated population, 146,559. Total number of deaths, 103, including enteric fever, 1, and 17 from tuberculosis.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 76 great towns in England and Wales during the week ended December 20, 1902, correspond to an annual rate of 19.6 per 1,000 of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 14,862,880.

London.—One thousand seven hundred and twenty deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 67; scarlet fever, 11; diphtheria, 25; whooping cough, 40; enteric fever, 9, and diarrhea, 13. The deaths from all causes correspond to an annual rate of 19.6 per 1,000. In Greater London 2,342 deaths were registered. In the "outer ring" the deaths included 6 from diphtheria, 14 from measles, 8 from whooping cough, and 4 from diarrhea.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended December 20, 1902, in the 21 principal town districts of Ireland was 27.8 per 1,000 of the population, which is estimated at 1,092,401. The lowest rate was recorded in Ballymena and Sligo, viz, 4.8, and the highest in Wexford, viz, 46.7 per 1,000. In Dublin and suburbs 235 deaths were registered, including enteric fever, 3; scarlet fever, 1; typhus fever, 1; whooping cough, 3, and 39 from tuberculosis.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended December 20, 1902, correspond to an annual rate of 21.1 per 1,000 of the population, which is estimated at 1,679,923. The lowest mortality was recorded in Perth, viz, 15.6, and the highest in Dundee, viz, 24.4 per 1,000. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 681, including diphtheria, 4; measles, 5; scarlet fever, 6, and 32 from whooping cough.